



Navajo Nation Community Outreach Network Office

Window Rock, Arizona

Community Outreach Network

The Community Outreach Network is the result of an October 2007 congressional directive by the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform requesting that five federal agencies (listed below) coordinate with one another in order to address uranium-related issues within the Navajo Nation.

The federal agencies, working in collaboration with the Navajo Nation and Hopi Tribe, developed the 2008-2012 Five-Year Plan, which was the first coordinated effort by the federal government to address uranium contamination in the Navajo Nation. The plan focused on improving awareness of the scope of the problem and on prioritizing the risks. In 2014, federal agencies completed the second Five-Year Plan that builds on the work of the first and has the following major objectives:

- Clean up abandoned uranium mines, groundwater, and homes constructed with contaminated mining materials.
- Provide clean drinking water to affected communities.
- Support community outreach and information sharing.
- Finalize Ten-Year Plan (2019-2028) reaffirming the five agencies commitment to continue working with the Navajo Nation and Hopi Tribe in addressing solutions related to uranium contamination issues in Indian Country. For more information regarding past 5-Year Plans, please visit EPA's website link, at:
<https://www.epa.gov/navajo-nation-uranium-cleanup/abandoned-mines-cleanup-federal-plans>.



U.S. Department of Energy (DOE)

Fulfills the U.S. Department of Energy's post-closure responsibilities and ensure the future protection of human health and the environment. DOE monitors and maintains four former uranium mill processing sites on Navajo Nation (Shiprock, Tuba City, Monument Valley, and Mexican Hat disposal sites.)



U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Addresses issues related to contaminated abandoned uranium mines and contaminated structures under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).



U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC)

Has oversight responsibility at the four former uranium mill sites on the Navajo Nation that are currently monitored and maintained by DOE. NRC oversees DOE due to NRC's licensee obligation for long-term surveillance of the sites.



Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Navajo Regional Office (NRO) Branch of Environmental Management (BEM) provides technical assistance and support to the Community Outreach Network on Abandoned Uranium Mines (AUM). Technical assistance and support is provided by reviewing AUM outreach materials, attending meetings, and participating in monthly teleconference meetings. NRO BEM will continue to support upcoming Community Outreach Network activities.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

Under HHS, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry was established under CERCLA to conduct scientific research and provide health information to communities.

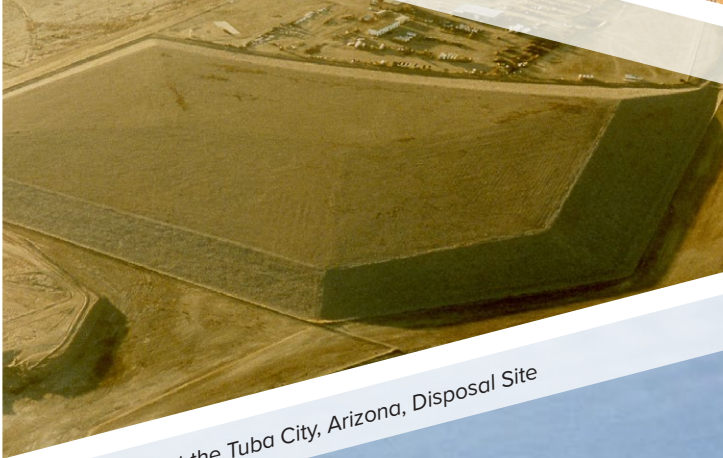
Mexican Hat, Utah, Disposal Site



Monument Valley, Arizona, Processing Site



Shiprock, New Mexico, Disposal Site



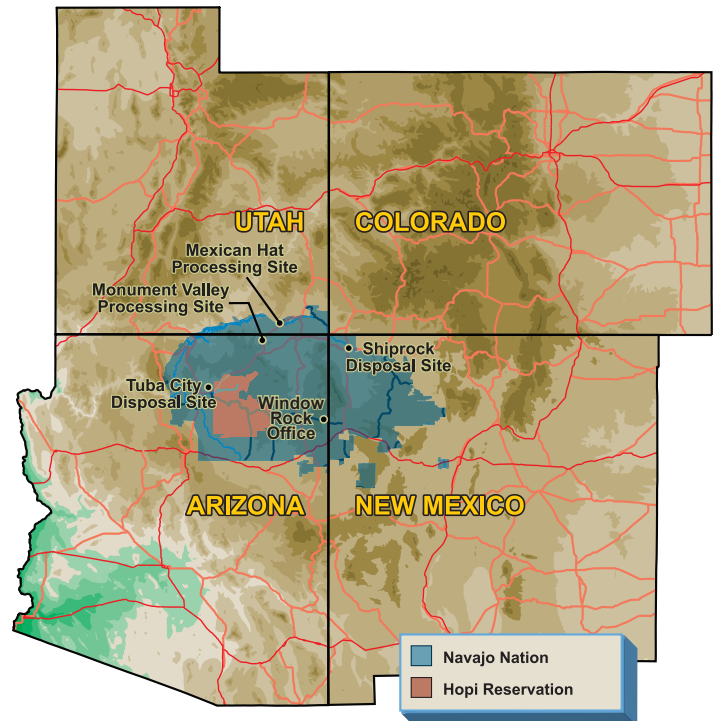
Solar panels at the Tuba City, Arizona, Disposal Site



The Community Outreach Network serves as the hub of information sharing for this overall effort. The network is composed of representatives from the five participating federal agencies (DOE, EPA, NRC, BIA, and HHS), the Navajo Nation Abandoned Mine Lands Reclamation/Uranium Mill Tailings Remedial Action Department (AML/UMTRA), the Navajo Nation Environmental Protection Agency (NNEPA), the Navajo Nation Department of Health (NNDOH), the Hopi Tribe Department of Natural Resources, and other tribal programs and offices. AML/UMTRA, NNEPA, and NNDOH provide tribal information specific to their efforts in addressing uranium-related issues within the Navajo Nation. The network is tasked with organizing community outreach events, sharing information, coordinating conference calls, and receiving community input and feedback.

Window Rock, Arizona, Office

To further the efforts of the Five-Year Plan, a Community Outreach Network office was established in Window Rock, Arizona. Office hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.



The network office is staffed by a Community Outreach Network Coordinator and Tribal Administrative Assistant, who serve as resources for the five federal agencies, tribal departments, programs, and community members.

The office provides information on LM sites in Tuba City and Monument Valley, Arizona; Shiprock, New Mexico; and Mexican Hat, Utah. EPA provides information on efforts to address abandoned uranium mines. Another component to the network is providing current information on the Defense-Related Uranium Mines (DRUM) program. The DOE DRUM program is a partnership between DOE, federal land management agencies, state abandoned mine lands

programs, and tribal governments to verify and validate the condition of a unique set of abandoned uranium mines. These mines provided uranium ore to the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission for defense-related purposes.

Most mines are located on public land and are abandoned. Initiated in 2017, DRUM Campaign 1 focuses on approximately 2,500 legacy mines located on public land administered by federal and state agencies. Campaign 2 is scheduled to commence fieldwork in fiscal year 2023 and will assess DRUM sites on tribal land.

The DRUM Program provides the structure and basis for DOE to manage verification and validation of approximately 4,225 mines across 19 states, which includes areas on tribal land, specifically the Navajo Nation.

The network office also has a conference room for meetings and office resources.

The primary goals of the office are to:

1. Increase community outreach and information sharing.
2. Support the Community Outreach Network.
3. Serve as a resource for participating federal agencies, and tribal departments and programs.
4. Provide information to community members interested in learning more about the work being done to protect human health and the environment from uranium contamination.



CONTACT INFORMATION

IN CASE OF AN EMERGENCY AT THE SITES CONTACT 911.

For more information about LM activities at the **Navajo Nation Community Outreach Network Office**, contact:

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